

Application No.: 10/667,808
Attorney Docket No.: 14846-16

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for use in a distributed processing system to specify an application service comprising:

defining a schema comprising an operation having a plurality of arguments, the schema having a nested operation;

validating the operation's signature, said schema; and

executing said operation in said distributed processing system.

2. (currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 1 ~~wherein defining a schema comprising an operation having a plurality of arguments comprises defining a schema having a nested operation further comprising validating the operation's~~ payload after validation of the contents of the payload.

3. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein defining a schema comprising an operation having a plurality of arguments comprises defining a schema having a plurality of nested operations.

4. (original) A method in accordance with claim 3 wherein defining a schema comprising an operation having a plurality of nested operations comprises defining a schema having one or more nested operations in one or more of said nested operations.

5. (original) A method in accordance with claim 2 wherein validating said schema further includes validating said nested operation.

6. (original) A method in accordance with claim 3 wherein validating said schema further includes validating said plurality of nested operations.

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7. (original) A method in accordance with claim 4 wherein validating said schema further includes validating said one or more nested operations in one or more of said nested operations.

8. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 further including the step of generating a program to perform the defined operations.

9. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 further including the step of distributing operations to one or more members of the distributed system.

10. (original) A method in accordance with claim 9 wherein said step of defining a schema includes indicating one or more points where distributing operations is beneficial.

11. (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the step of defining a schema comprises defining a schema in XML.